

REMARKS

Please cancel Claims 18 and 19 without prejudice. Claims 1-6, 12, 14 and 16 are amended herein. Claims 1-17 are pending. No new matter is added as a result of the claim amendments.

Claims 7-11, 14 and 15 are allowed. Claims 6 and 19 are indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of Claims 6-11, 14, 15 and 19.

103 Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 12, 16 and 17

The instant Office Action states that Claims 1, 2, 12, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. ("Lee," U.S. Patent No. 6,484,274) in view of Ebrahim (U.S. Patent No. 5,878,264).

Independent Claim 1 recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to a method that includes "producing a signature ... to indicate that said private memory contains information." Claim 2 is dependent on Claim 1 and recites additional limitations.

Independent Claim 12 recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to a digital computer system "wherein a flag is set to indicate that said private memory contains said CPU context."

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Lee nor Ebrahim, nor the combination thereof, show a flag or signature being used to indicate that a private memory for storing CPU context contains information. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Lee and Ebrahim, alone or in combination, do not show or suggest the present claimed invention as recited by independent Claims 1 and 12, and that these claims are in condition for allowance. As such, Applicants also respectfully submit that Lee and Ebrahim, alone or in combination, do not show or suggest the additional claimed features of the present invention as recited in Claim 2 dependent on Claim 1, and that Claim 2 is also in condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base claim. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully assert that the basis for rejecting Claims 1, 2 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed.

Independent Claim 16 incorporates the allowable subject matter of Claim 19 and is therefore in condition for allowance. Claim 17 is dependent on Claim 16 and recites additional limitations. Accordingly, Claim 17 is also in condition for allowance. Therefore, a discussion of the rejection of Claims 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is rendered moot.

Claim 3

The instant Office Action states that Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee and Ebrahim and further in view of Gebara et al. ("Gebara;" U.S. Patent No. 6,035,407).

Claim 3 is dependent on Claim 1 and recites additional limitations. As presented above, Applicants respectfully submit that Lee and Ebrahim, alone or in combination, do not show or suggest the present invention as recited in Claim 1.

Applicants further submit that Gebara does not overcome the shortcomings of Lee and Ebrahim. Specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that Gebara, alone or in combination with Lee and Ebrahim, does not show or suggest a method that includes "producing a signature ... to indicate that said private memory contains information" as recited in Claim 1.

As such, Applicants also respectfully submit that Gebara, alone or in combination with Lee and Ebrahim, does not show or suggest the additional claimed features of the present invention as recited in Claim 3 dependent on Claim 1, and that Claim 3 is thus in condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base claim. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully assert that the basis for rejecting Claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed.

Claims 4 and 5

The instant Office Action states that Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee and Ebrahim and further in view of Applicants' Admitted Prior Art (AAPA).

Claims 4 and 5 are dependent on Claim 1 and recite additional limitations. As presented above, Applicants respectfully submit that Lee and

Ebrahim, alone or in combination, do not show or suggest the present invention as recited in Claim 1.

Applicants further submit that AAPA does not overcome the shortcomings of Lee and Ebrahim. Specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that AAPA, alone or in combination with Lee and Ebrahim, does not show or suggest a method that includes "producing a signature ... to indicate that said private memory contains information" as recited in Claim 1.

As such, Applicants also respectfully submit that AAPA, alone or in combination with Lee and Ebrahim, does not show or suggest the additional claimed features of the present invention as recited in Claims 4 and 5 dependent on Claim 1, and that Claims 4 and 5 are thus in condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base claim. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully assert that the basis for rejecting Claims 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed.

Claim 13

The instant Office Action states that Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee and Ebrahim and further in view of Song et al. ("Song;" U.S. Patent No. 5,991,531).

Claim 13 is dependent on Claim 12 and recites additional limitations. As presented above, Applicants respectfully submit that Lee and Ebrahim, alone or in combination, do not show or suggest the present invention as recited in Claim 12.

Applicants further submit that Song does not overcome the shortcomings of Lee and Ebrahim. Specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that Song, alone or in combination with Lee and Ebrahim, does not show or suggest a method that includes a digital computer system "wherein a flag is set to indicate that said private memory contains said CPU context" as recited in Claim 12.

As such, Applicants also respectfully submit that Song, alone or in combination with Lee and Ebrahim, does not show or suggest the additional claimed features of the present invention as recited in Claim 13 dependent on Claim 12, and that Claim 13 is thus in condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base claim. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully assert that the basis for rejecting Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed.

Conclusions

Based on the remarks and amendments presented above, Applicants request allowance of the present Application.

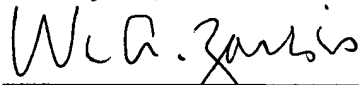
Based on the arguments presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-17 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these claims.

Applicants have reviewed the reference that was cited but not relied upon. Applicants respectfully assert that the present claimed invention overcomes this reference: U.S. Patent No. 5,864,659.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

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Respectfully submitted,
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